



# Connections

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A newsletter for the Anderson Seventh-day Adventist Church  
anderson.adventistfaith.org

September 2014 Week 2

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## *Contact Information*

**Pastor Murray Miller**  
530-364-2041  
mmiller@nccsda.com  
Monday-Thursday 9:30am—12pm  
\*And by appointment

**Church Office:**  
530-365-3965  
andsdachurch@gmail.com  
Monday-Thursday 9am—12pm

**Connect Online:**  
1. [anderson.adventistfaith.org](http://anderson.adventistfaith.org)  
2. [Facebook.com/andersonadventist.church](https://www.facebook.com/andersonadventist.church)

**Submit a Prayer Request**  
227-6829 (Andrew LiVolsi) for  
9am prayer group

357-4401 (Evelyn Baxter): for  
church prayer chain

**Conference Office:**  
925-685-4300  
[www.nccsda.com](http://www.nccsda.com)

## Pastor's Greeting: Vision Quest

Dear Anderson Church Family,

Our 10 Days of Prayer focus is off to a great start, and at this time I want to remind you of the purpose of this prayer initiative: to seek the Lord's guidance for the direction of our Church. Like the disciples of old, we want to be united in purpose (one mind), but what is our purpose/mission? How do we see it being accomplished in our area? What would happen if we "dreamed" a little and gained a heavenly vision for the future? Further questions to consider:

1. If God had His way in our lives and church, what difference would that make?
2. If we had unlimited resources, how would we do ministry differently?
3. What needs in the community would be met as we fulfilled the mission of God? What changes would we see? What would our congregation look like in 5 or 10 years if we find ourselves still here on earth accomplishing His mission?

I want to invite you to begin "dreaming" again, for Joel 2 says that both young and old will dream dreams in the last days. I also want you to encourage you to prayerfully plan to participate in each of the sessions listed below. Truly, if we humble ourselves by seeking the Lord's Vision for our church, then He can do great things!

### **Here is how you can participate in sessions of Prayer, Singing and Visioning:**

1. September 20—Join us as we look at the results of our health assessment, trends in our church, and Biblical texts on Mission.
2. September 27—Our Church and its Ministry Context
3. October 4—Ministry Milestones
4. October 11—Keeping the Vision Before Us

You can access the discussion guides online (see website to left) or get them when you come to sessions. May the Lord be our Vision!

## Things to Avoid in a Testimony (by Jac Colon & Elden Walter)

1. Don't use denominational jargon which fails to communicate properly. Avoid such phrases such as: "Since I came into the message;" "after I accepted the truth." Keep your witness Christ centered. It is better to uplift Christ as Savior with such phrases as: "Since I accepted Christ;" and "after I Accepted Jesus as my personal Savior."
2. Don't glamorize sin by telling in detail "how wicked you used to be."
3. Avoid being wordy. Keep your witness brief. Brevity gives others an opportunity to ask questions.
4. Don't speak critically of other churches; all comments should be seasoned with love and tact.
5. Do not give a long list of sacrifices you had to make, the things you had to give up, the hardships you faced in becoming a Christian. Instead, you should emphasize the positive. "Go and tell how great things the Lord has done for you."- NEXT WEEK: What to Include

## Anderson Connections (please see your bulletin for more announcements)

**FREE Health Assessment:** If you need assistance in doing the survey, then feel free to contact the Office or the Pastor. The "due-date" for this is September 15.

**10 Days of Prayer:** Daily til Sept. 19. Devotional guides will be provided and a prayer line.

**Vision Quest 2014:** Sabbath afternoons @ 2pm (Sept. 20 & 27 and October 4 & 11).

**Prayer Breakfast:** Sunday, October 12 @ 10am. A great climax to our prayer season!

**Roof / Solar:** Continue your support by marking your tithe envelope "Roof and Solar".

## Area & NCC Happenings

**Northern California Conference call to prayer:** each Thursday at 7:00am. Dial 424-203-8400 then put in the access code: 669648#

**10+10 Local:** If each one of us gave \$10/month can easily help us reach our goal of \$14,400 for Christian Education. Mark your envelope "Redding Adventist Academy".

**Mad About Marriage Training:** October 19 @ 10am at the NCC Conference office. If you want to learn how to bring this ministry to Anderson then contact the Pastor. Also, there will be a HUGE Marriage event in the Oakland area November 1 from 2pm onward.